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Serial No. : 10/068,352
Filed : February 4, 2002
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Attorney's Docket No.: 07575-033002

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 32 with the following amended paragraph:

To illustrate, an exemplary configuration shown in FIG. 16 ~~Fig. 8~~ for video streaming applications will be discussed next. In this video streaming example, a video data provider might choose to play advertisements periodically which cannot be fast-forwarded by a user. The advertisement can be a pointer that stores the actual location of the data. This location can be another member of the virtual partition. When the user fast-forwards the video and tries to read beyond the advertisement, the vp_strategy module 438 can detect this bypass attempt and route the advertisement to the user.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

Briefly, in an embodiment ~~[[500]]~~ of FIG. 16 ~~Fig. 8~~, data requests from users are transmitted to one or more servers 514 which have local drives 516. The server 514 is connected over a SAN bus 502 to a plurality of data storage devices 512, 518, 522, 524 and 526. Additionally, a compression unit 520 is connected to the SAN bus 502. Storage space requests by the server 514 are managed by a SAN manager 510.